

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Riverside City Council Meeting

Held on Thursday, September 1, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Williams called the Riverside, Ohio City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Riverside Administrative Offices located at 5200 Springfield Street, Suite 100, Riverside, Ohio, 45431.

ROLL CALL: Council attendance was as follows: Mr. Denning, present; Mrs. Franklin, present; Ms. Fry, present; Mr. Joseph, present; Ms. Lommatzsch, present; Mr. Maxfield, present; and Mayor Williams, present.

Staff present was as follows: Josh Rauch, City Manager; Frank Robinson, Police Chief; Dan Stitzel, Fire Chief; Kathy Bartlett, Public Service Director; Dalma Grandjean, Law Director; and Katie Lewallen, Clerk of Council.

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS: No council members were absent.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA: No changes were made to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Ms. Lommatzsch, to approve the agenda. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Williams led the pledge of allegiance.

PROCLAMATION: Mayor Williams read a proclamation recognizing 9/11 Day encouraging all citizens to honor the lives of those lost on September 11, 2001, by participating in community service and remembrance ceremonies on that day and throughout the year.

MINUTES: Mr. Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2022, council work session, August 13, 2022, council strategic planning session, and the August 18, 2022, council business meeting. All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

LIQUOR LICENSE: City council had no objection to the change of corporate stock ownership of Yum Yums Drive Thru, 635 Spinning Road, Riverside, OH 45431.

WRITTEN CITIZEN PETITIONS: Mayor Williams stated any citizen wishing to speak should fill out a petition found at the back of the room and turn it in to the clerk.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

A) Police Department – Chief Robinson stated they currently have four officers out. Officer Josh Schmidt, who also works as the IT for the department has recently attended updated training and advanced computer forensic training provided at no charge by the federal government. Officer Matt Jackson, a K-9 officer and member of the S.W.A.T. team, has been offered some leadership training through the county with regard to his position with the S.W.A.T. team. Chief Robinson stated they started the process for hiring police officers; he added that a lot of places are hiring right now, and it is hard to get new recruits at present. Eight candidates passed the test. He added they have started the security process that they

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Riverside City Council Meeting

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do with the schools at the beginning of each school year. They will be participating in the job shadow day at Carroll High School. Last year, they had four job shadow, and he believes they will have four again this year. This past week, they participated in a triple OVI checkpoint through the Montgomery County combined A-Z OVI task force. He stated that Tina went through some training last week and lost a tooth; one of her canines were ripped out. She underwent surgery to fix the broken tooth and a dangling tonsil. She is expected to have a full recovery. He showed council the new radios the department has received and thanked council for being able to purchase them for the police department.

B) Fire Department – Chief Stitzel stated they are continuing their transition over to Image Trend and getting their data out of current RMS and predicting to go live on October 11, 2022. Huber Heights plans to go live with their new software on the same date. Both police and fire have been involved in several meetings to get ready for that date. There will be a lot of training in the weeks prior to make sure it is working functionally before the switch. They did their insurance services review on Wednesday; it went well and received a lot of good comments about the department and their documentation and records. They will not know their rating for another four to six months but think it will remain a “3” or a much stronger “3”. He stated that he is losing a full-time firefighter who is moving to Memphis, Tennessee as he wants to be a big city firefighter. They are going through the hiring process and reviewing the applications they have now. He was on a national webinar today for firefighter recruitment and retention because it is a national problem. Everyone is struggling to get firefighters, paramedics, and police officers.

C) Public Service Department – Ms. Bartlett stated her department is gearing up for the Harshman Wall repair, which will begin September 12, 2022. The project will overlap the West Springfield project for about six weeks. That entire area will be very busy. Both contractors are aware of each other working. A press release will go out next week along with changeable message signs to let people know of the construction. Smithville Road can be used as an alternative route. She stated that she and the city manager met with all the schools in the city to discuss city road projects and anything else they had on their minds. They got good ideas on how to better communicate with them on projects. She met with the chiefs regarding the road projects as well. The crews are ready to do the crack sealing and sealant next week. They will do the paths and the basketball courts.

D) City Manager Report – Mr. Rauch reminded council that next week’s work session has been rescheduled to September 22, 2022. One item he needed to mention is an upcoming change to the Table of Organization. He would like to create an additional police officer position to backfill for when the School Resource Officer is appointed, and then he would like to remove the engineering technician position and reclassify it into another maintenance worker position. He stated if there are no objections, then he can bring the ordinance in September having a second reading in October.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: Mrs. Sue Held came forward to comment on the proclamation. Mrs. Sue Held, 6005 Seagate Place, shared the story of her little brother, who died on September 11, 2001. She stated that her brother, Chuck Jones, was born on November 8, 1952, in Clinton, Indiana. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Riverside City Council Meeting

Held on Thursday, September 1, 2022

astronautical engineering from the United States Air Force Academy. He received his Master of Science degree in astronautics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He entered the USAF manned space flight engineer program in 1982. He was scheduled on mission STS 71B in December 1986, but the mission was canceled after the Challenger disaster in January of 1986. He left the program and later worked for Bowling Air Force Base in Washington, D.C. He was the systems program director for intelligence and information systems at Hanscom Air Force Base in Massachusetts. He was killed at the age of 48 on September 11, 2001, aboard American Airlines Flight 11. He had been living as a retired USAF Colonel in Bedford, Massachusetts. He is survived by his wife Jeanette. She thanked council for the proclamation. Mayor Williams thanked her for sharing his story.

OLD BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCES

- I) **Ordinance No. 22-O-805 – An ordinance adding New Chapter 1505 – Fire Safety Equipment and Facilities, which include new Section 1505.01, Hydrant Location, Number, and Approval; and new Section 1505.03, Fire Hydrant Placement and Standards, to the Codified Ordinances of the City of Riverside, Ohio. (2nd reading, public hearing, and adoption)**

Mr. Rauch stated this is a new section regarding fire hydrants.

Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 22-O-805. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing at 6:19 pm. No one came forward. Mayor Williams closed the public hearing at 6:19 pm.

Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Mrs. Franklin; Ms. Fry, yes; Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; Mr. Maxfield, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

Audio was lost from 20:36 to 26:27.

NEW BUSINESS

A. ORDINANCES

- I) **Ordinance No. 22-O-806 – An ordinance amending Section 1113.19 Floodplain Design Standards of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) of the City of Riverside, Ohio. (1st reading)**

Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mrs. Franklin, to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 22-O-806. The clerk read the ordinance by title only.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Riverside City Council Meeting

Held on Thursday, September 1, 2022

Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mrs. Franklin, yes; Ms. Fry; Mr. Joseph, yes; Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; Mr. Maxfield, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.**

B. RESOLUTIONS

- I) Resolution No. 22-R-2788 – A resolution amending Resolution No. 21-R-2720 authorizing the city manager to enter into a professional service agreement with the Montgomery County Transportation Improvement District (TID) to provide project management and financing services for the Harshman Realignment Project – Woodman Phase 4.**

Ms. Lommatzsch moved, seconded by Deputy Mayor Denning, to approve Resolution No. 22-R-2788.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

- II) Resolution No. 22-R-2789 - A resolution authorizing the city manager to make application to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) for the purpose of obtaining a Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Grant for the Woodman Corridor Study Project.**

Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Maxfield, to approve Resolution No. 22-R-2789.

All were in favor. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: Mayor Williams stated there were two petitions to speak on non-agenda items. He invited James and Sarah DesLauriers to the podium and asked them to state their name, address, and keep comments to three minutes. Mr. James DesLauriers, 310 Spinning Road, stated he came tonight for clarification on ordinances related to chickens in residential areas. He stated he pulled three documents from Municode and they did not state anything within a zone with any zone attached to it. They found another one that had to do with accessory buildings as far as allowing them to raise chickens in an R-1 zone, which is what he believes they are in. He stated they were cited by the City for a zoning violation in which they were not allowed to have the chickens. It was much harder to find the zoning code than it was the other two that somewhat specified that they would be able to have them. He wanted to get clarification. They have had their chickens for a little while; they did not know they were in any violation of code. They have never been a problem; they are not a nuisance. They keep everything very clean. They have been a benefit to the community and to their child, who has an autoimmune disease. Through the pandemic, they have served as a great social tool as their child is very introverted, and he is coming out of his shell quite a bit. He would much gladly spend time with the chickens than play video games. He just wants clarification if they can have them or not. Mr. Rauch stated he is happy to meet with them after the meeting. His understanding is that they have to be on at least an acre-and-a-half lot for chickens and have a conditional use.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Riverside City Council Meeting

Held on Thursday, September 1, 2022

Mayor Williams invited Mr. Frank Smith to the podium. He asked him to state his name, address, and keep comments to three minutes. Mr. Frank Smith, 4703 Byesville Blvd., stated, number one, he wanted to know they can't get Jerry to spray the lot. He knows that he can spray water on it to control the dust. Number two, he still wants the sign. He is tired of fighting with the trucks. Number three, he wants the other mess cleaned up. Zoning said they would be there on the 30th to clean it up and it is still there. He is still stealing electricity; he is still relieving himself off the front porch. There are kids who do not need to be seeing this. It is a nuisance, and he is tired of being lied to. He added if the city doesn't want to put the sign back up, they can bring it down and he will put it up. He is not afraid of Jerry. He wants to put the sign back up and if it doesn't go back up, he will put up his sign and he will not take it down. That is a promise. He is tired of asking. He has tried to do everything by the law, but if they don't want to do it, he can. *Mr. Smith began a side conversation with Chief Robinson.* He stated he made no threat to shoot anybody. He is tired of being accused of things he doesn't do. He is tired of the aggravation.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS: Mayor Williams stated that school starts back up after the holiday and everyone who is driving needs to be aware of all students back in school. Mr. Maxfield stated that is exactly what he was going to say. Mrs. Franklin asked people to remember the holiday weekend and there will be a lot of travelers so stay safe. Ms. Lommatzsch stated she had her MVRPC meeting today, and she shared information with the city engineer. She is hoping they can take advantage of a lot of that money. Ms. Fry stated that September is suicide awareness month. She asks everyone to be an advocate for mental health and more. She stated the national number for suicide hotline is '988'. It is a resource for anyone dealing with a mental health crisis. Anyone who calls that number will be contacted with a team who can respond in a mental health capacity.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Deputy Mayor Denning moved, seconded by Mr. Joseph, to go into executive session for the reason listed on the agenda: 103.01(3) conferences with an attorney representing the City as counsel, concerning disputes involving the City, its council, boards, commissions, officials and employees that are the subject of pending or imminent court action or discussions of any matters which are properly covered under the attorney-client privilege as recognized by the law of Ohio. Roll call went as follows: Mr. Denning, yes; Mr. Joseph, yes; Mrs. Franklin, yes; Ms. Fry; Ms. Lommatzsch, yes; Mr. Maxfield, yes; and Mayor Williams, yes. **Motion carried.** Council went into executive session at 6:36 pm.

RECONVENE: Council reconvened at 7:23 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Maxfield moved, seconded by Deputy Mayor Denning, to adjourn. All were in favor. **Motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.



Peter J. Williams, Mayor



Clerk of Council

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Riverside City Council Meeting

Held on _____

Page 1 of 1